

Docket: 14542

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:	Paul Dathe	
Application No.:	10/617,425	
Filing Date:	July 11, 2003	Examiner: Not Yet Known
Title:	FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	Group Art Unit: 3637

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this document is being sent via First Class U.S. mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 16 day of April, 2004.

KrisAnne Popovits
KrisAnne Popovits

Dear Sir:

The following documents are enclosed in connection with the above-referenced patent application:

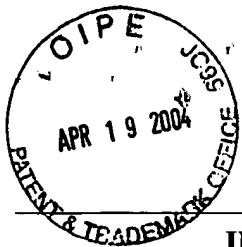
1. Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) (1 page);
2. Form PTO/SB/08A (1 page, submitted in duplicate);
3. Copies of Three (3) References Cited; and
4. Return Receipt Postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
Customer Number 25763

Date: Apr. 16, 2004

By: Devan V. Padmanabhan
Devan V. Padmanabhan
Reg. No. 38,262
Intellectual Property Department
Suite 1500
50 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-1498
(612) 343-7990



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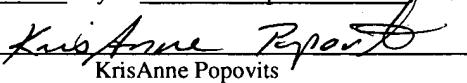
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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KrisAnne Popovits

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(b), the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (1 sheet, submitted in duplicate) are brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the identified references are enclosed as necessary. This IDS is being filed before the mailing of a first office action on the merits. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Pursuant to the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Chapter 609, Applicant requests that the Examiner consider each of the listed documents and initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A (submitted in duplicate).

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
Customer Number 25763

Date: Apr. 16, 2004

By: Devan V. Padmanabhan
Devan V. Padmanabhan
Reg. No. 38,262
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APR 19 2004

PTO/SB/08A (10/01) (modified)
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number

10/617,425

Filing Date

July 11, 2003

First Named Inventor

Paul Dathe

Art Unit

3637

Examiner Name

Not Yet Known

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	14542
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 4,615,120	10-7-1986	Newman	
		US- Des. 336,047	6-1-1993	Kim	
		US- 5,752,365	5-19-1998	Johnson et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	TRANSLATION	
		Country Code:	Number - Kind Code (if known)				YES	NO
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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.